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13 May 1947



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Thanks very much for your thoughtfulness in sending me the letter of May 3. Although we should have preferred to remain in Paris from personal considerations this is a good job and so far I can't complain--I am still out of jail.

I am still so new around here that I don't know just what jobs may be available, however, I am inclosing a Form 57. If you will fill it out and return it to me, I'll see what can be done. I am sorry that I cannot give you a more definite answer at this time, but I am still trying to find my way about.

With very best wishes, believe me,

Sincerely,

RNN
R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central Intelligence


Incl

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2 cc Central Records

*Let
14 May 47*



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PERSONAL
May 3, 1947

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My dear Hillenkoetter,

Congratulations on your appointment to your present important post. However, judging from the enthusiasm that you displayed when I saw you at the Embassy in Paris last September, I assume that your duty as Naval Attache in Paris was more to your liking from a personal point of view.

As for myself, it's a far cry from the cradle of culture and civilization to the home of the horse opera. My personal reactions are much the same as yours must have been - perhaps even more so. Nevertheless, I consider myself most fortunate in that ALNAV 68 retained me on active duty until July 1948.

Should you need the services of an officer of my experience and qualifications in your unit, I would be most delighted to accept any foreign assignment where you think I might be useful. I'm not seeking an appointment in the spot-light neither am I particularly interested in wearing four-stranded aiguilletes. I would like to produce to the maximum of my ability and qualifications as long as I am on active duty.

For your information, I have served on active duty in all parts of Europe for about eight years. I have a thorough knowledge of the French language and the European psychology. My jacket can supply you with any necessary information about my past performance of duty. What I would like to do is to help accomplish as much as possible in a field where tremendous forward progress must be made in the immediate present. It is my personal opinion that such aspirations are both proper and legitimate.

Sincerely yours,



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Rear Admiral R.H. Hillenkoetter, U.S. Navy
Director, U.S. Central Intelligence,
Washington, D. C.